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ourselves and try to come up with the courage and the wisdom and the strength to do what is right and to hope that doing what is right will be what will guide us. It's been a privilege to work with each one of you. I've obviously gained a number of very close friendships and I look forward to hopefully being able to move back into my community and work in some fashion again to make that a better place to live also. Best wishes to each one of you and God bless each one of you. Thank you. (Applause)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Hillman.

SENATOR HILLMAN: It is a pleasure and an honor for me to be asked to make this next presentation. The senator from the 8th Legislative District, Senator Eric Will, has served in the Legislature for eight years; but his service to the Legislature spans nearly 17 years. Before Eric was elected to office, he worked for the Legislature's Revenue Committee as a research analyst for both Senator Vard Johnson and Senator Tim Hall. The conventional wisdom is that Eric learned all he knows about tax policy from Vard and merely picked up some bad habits when he worked for Tim. Seriously, Eric is one of the brightest young persons to have served in this Unicameral. Sitting in the cultural corner with Eric for most of his eight years, I've had the good fortune to benefit from his knowledge of tax policy; and he has learned from me that Nebraska's western border is not the city limits of Omaha. Although not all of Eric's advice did I heed, I don't believe I once voted for any of the 27 bingo tax reduction bills that he introduced nor did I support the "bimbo tax" amendment that Eric offered on the floor last session. In addition to graduating from the Unicameral, I believe that Eric is finally about to graduate from law school. Rumor has it the Dean has told him six years is enough. Also my friend and colleague from Omaha is leaving us to try his hand at collecting taxes as the Douglas County Treasurer. It will be the first time Eric will truly see the fruits of his labors. He will now be able to collect all the tax increases he passed over the years. While I guess maybe you did see the fruits of your work this session, Eric, as the chairman of the Rules Committee, I also discovered Eric to be a very caring and compassionate individual. After the death of my husband Ken, I would find it difficult at times to keep my composure on the floor. And it was during those times that I would find a hand on my shoulder